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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/047,914	01/15/2002	Hiroshi Tanaka	4041J-000503	2496
27572	7590 09/10/2003			
	DICKEY & PIERCE,	EXAMINER		
P.O. BOX 828 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303			ATKINSON, CHRISTOPHER MARK	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3743	
			DATE MAILED: 09/10/2003	i

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. Examiner

Atkinson

Applicant(s)

3743

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Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE DISC. MONTH(S) FROM THE MALING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.		The MAILING DATE of this communication appears of	n the cover sheet with the correspondence address			
THE MALING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Estambling of time may be available under the provision of 3 CFR I.136 (a). In no event, however, may a ricely be timely filled after SIX (8) MONTHS from the maliting date of this communication. If the period for with professional down the provision of 3 CFR I.136 (a). In no event, however, may a ricely be timely filled after SIX (8) MONTHS from the mality of the profession of the p	Period 1	or Reply	TO EVRIPE ANA MONTHIS) FROM			
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Any topic received by the Office face than these mentiles after the making date of the communication, even if timely field, may reduce any search plant time delatiment. Set 27 CR1 7-1690. Status	Callega	so each within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the	application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status 1 Responsive to communication(s) filed on	- Anv re	ply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the	is communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any			
2al This action is FINAL. 2b This action is non-final. 3 Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims						
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Aa) Of the above, claim(s) is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above, claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5)			të Quaylë, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.			
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3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	· -					

Art Unit: 3743

Election/Restriction

This application discloses and contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- A) The species as illustrated in Figures 1-3
- B) The species as illustrated in Figure 4
- C) The species as illustrated in Figure 5
- D) The species as illustrated in Figure 6
- E) The species as illustrated in Figures 8-10
- F) The species as illustrated in Figures 12A-12C
- G) The species as illustrated in Figures 13A-13B
- H) The species as illustrated in Figure 14
- I) The species as illustrated in Figures 15A-15C
- J) The species as illustrated in Figures 16A-16B
- K) The species as illustrated in Figures 17A-18
- L) The species as illustrated in Figures 19A-19B
- M) The species as illustrated in Figures 20-23
- N) The species as illustrated in Figures 24A-25

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim appears to be generic.

Application/Control Number: 10/047,914

Page 3

Art Unit: 3743

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Atkinson whose telephone number is (703) 308-2603.

C.A. 9/8/200**2**

CHRISTOPHER ATKINSON PRIMARY EXAMINER